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Update for September 25, 2020

Justices, Judges, Circuit Court Clerks and Kentucky Court of Justice Personnel:

Supreme Court amends orders related to high-risk employees, emergency release schedule

The Supreme Court has entered two amended administrative orders related to high-risk employees and emergency release.

Work Alternatives for High-Risk Employees

[Administrative Order 2020-66](#), Work Alternatives for High-Risk Employees and Asymptomatic COVID Testing Leave for Kentucky Court of Justice Employees in a Pandemic or Public Health Emergency, amends Administrative Order 2020-58 as follows:

- Changes Special Emergency Directed Leave to Work Alternatives for High-Risk Employees.
- An employee who is 65 years old or older or provides medical documentation establishing he or she is in a high-risk category, as established by the Centers for Disease Control, may request a work alternative.
- Qualifying employees will be offered an in-office work alternative consisting of a separate workspace and modified work duties, or be approved to telecommute.
- An employee will only be authorized to claim SEDL or other authorized leave if the appointing authority determines that an in-office work alternative or telecommuting is unavailable.
- Employees who were previously approved for SEDL or provided an alternative work arrangement due to being at a high risk for severe illness must submit a new request for a high-risk work alternative for consideration by Human Resources and the appointing authority.

Emergency Release Schedule

In addition, [Administrative Order 2020-67](#), Amended Emergency Release Schedule and Pretrial Drug Testing Standards, amends Administrative Order 2020-45 as follows:

- Adds language to clarify that a defendant who is rearrested on a new misdemeanor or felony charge is not eligible under the emergency release schedule.
- Adds several Class D felonies to the exclusion list based on recommendations from judges.

If you have questions about work alternatives for high-risk employees, email the Department of Human Resources at COJHR2@kycourts.net. For questions about the emergency release schedule, contact Amy Gamble, manager of the Division of Risk Assessment, Department of Pretrial Services, at amygamble@kycourts.net.



John D. Minton, Jr.
Chief Justice of Kentucky
Capitol Building
700 Capital Avenue, Room 231
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
Telephone 502.564.4162

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